

App. No. 10/808,620
Amendment Dated: July 3, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 3, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed April 3, 2005 rejected Claims 1-2, 4, 9, 11, 16, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Heie (US 6,473, 621). Claims 3, 5-8, 10, 12-15, 17, 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heie in view of Weiner (US 2003/0023424). Claims 1, 4, 9, 11, 16, 17, 18 and 21 have been amended. No new matter has been added. The Applicants respectfully disagree and present the following for consideration.

Claim Rejections

With regard to Claims 1 and 9, the Office Action argues that Heie discloses the limitations of Claims 1 and 9 and states that Heie "allows the user to enter shortcut code, or "shorthand term", such as the location of a message stored in memory, instead of entering the entire message. As the user completes entering the location, the message stored at the location will be displayed on the display (column 2, lines 8-21)."

The Office Action argues that "[t]his feature of the invention renders the limitation of "displaying the definition of the shorthand term within the application". Furthermore, a text-to-text storage table (figure 2a) is disclosed where a defined term or "shorthand term" along with its corresponding substitute data or "definition" is shown. This particular component of the invention renders the "dictionary service" because it is where the shorthand term along with its definition is stored, in which a CPU accesses in order to carry the replacement of text when a defined term is detected (column 3, line 6)." The Applicants respectfully disagree and present the following for consideration.

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Heie is directed at providing a translator that allows a user to enter shortcut text that is automatically replaced with expansion of the shortcut text whenever the shortcut text is encountered. This replacement text completely replaces the shortcut text. In the Abstract, Heie states that "[a] user interface is provided that permits a replacement of text to be made if a defined term is detected, followed by further replacements of text if any defined terms are found within the first replacement text." In the summary, Heie states that "[t]he method has the advantage that lengthy strings need not be keyed in, saving considerable time, when a shorthand string is available. There is an additional advantage in that storage is more efficiently used by permitting redundant text to be referred to even in expansion or substitute data by way of the shorthand strings." In other words, Heie is interested in replacing shortcut text with expanded text in order to save time. In order to determine the replacement text, Heie discloses the use of a table (FIGURE 2A) that contains a list of defined terms (201) and a list of the corresponding substitute data (203). When Heie detects that one of the defined terms has been entered then it is automatically replaced with the substitute data.

In contrast, Claim 1 as amended recites "displaying the definition of the shorthand term within the application without replacing the shorthand term entered in the document creation application." As discussed above, Heie replaces all of the shortcut text it encounters and replaces the shortcut text with the expanded text found in the table.

Independent Claims 9 and 16 have similarly been amended and are proposed to be allowable for at least the same reasons.

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With regard to Claim 4 and 18, the Office Action argues that "with reference to figure 2A, if a user decides to enter a shorthand term or "defined term" as shown in the figure, the substitute data is displayed on the user interface. Therefore when a user enters a shorthand term, he/she essentially selects a shorthand term from the application." Claims 4, 11 and 18 have been amended to more clearly define "selecting" to include the recitation "highlighting the shorthand term." As indicated by the Office Action, Heie does not disclose highlighting the shorthand term. As such, the Applicants submit that Claims 4, 11 and 18 are allowable over the cited art.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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